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February 7, 1990

COLLECTION OF VALENTINES HOLDS SPECIAL PLACE IN ZIMMERMAN'S HEART

George Zimmerman, a lecturer in the University of Dayton's music division, began collecting Valentine's Day cards about 20 years ago in order to spice up a holiday segment on his long-running television show, "Passport to Music." He's continued this hobby over the years and has now amassed about 400 Valentines.

"I always thought, for kids in school, that Valentine's Day was the most meaningful," said Zimmerman, former music supervisor for Dayton Public Schools. "It's such an innocent, simple kind of holiday when the kids would put paper bags on their desks to collect Valentines from their classmates."

Zimmerman's collection includes penny Valentines, Valentines that are sarcastic and, of course, the lacy variety with messages long on sentiment. "Some are what they call 'cardboard mechanicals,'" said Zimmerman. "They open on a hinge and make a character's eyes move."

For media interviews, contact George Zimmerman at (513) 229-3917.

VALENTINE'S DAY WOOING STILL A MAN'S RESPONSIBILITY, SAYS UNIVERSITY OF DAYTON PSYCHOLOGIST

As Valentine's Day approaches, the task of asking for dates and buying flowers and candy will continue to fall on men, says a University of Dayton professor who feels students in today's love relationships face the same stereotypes their parents did 30 years ago.

Many women are reluctant to ask men out, while men are still considered the initiators in relationships, says Mary K. Roberson, an assistant professor of psychology at UD who wrote her doctoral dissertation on "Teenage Sexual Decision Making."

"Young people think things have changed a lot, but they really haven't," said Roberson. "Some of today's basic values were around in the '50s and '60s. Since these values are so deeply ingrained in our culture, they tend to remain steadfast over time."

Roberson says in the late '60s and early '70s people rebelled against those values, but the rebellion itself is what caused their behavior to swing to such a degree away from the center. "I have great hope that we're moving toward a situation where the pendulum will swing from a conservative stance, which does not allow people the freedom they need to grow, to a midway point that will allow students to integrate values from both sides."

For media interviews, contact Mary Roberson at (513) 229-2166.



The University of Dayton

For further information or assistance in scheduling interviews, contact Office of Public Relations, (513) 229-3241.